

REMARKS:

Claims 1-3 are in the case and presented for consideration.

Claims 4 and 5 have been canceled and Claims 1 and 2 have been amended to better define the invention.

Cancellation of claims from this application does not constitute an admission regarding patentability of the canceled subject matter. Applicant reserves the right to pursue any subject matter Applicant invented and that is disclosed in the current application, in one or more continuing applications.

For the reasons that follow, Applicant believes all of the claims are now condition for allowance.

35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-5 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1 and 2 have been amended to remove "etc." from the text of the claim. Claims 1 and 2 have also been amended to add "or", as suggested by the Examiner's remarks. These amendments are formalistic and are in no way intended to be interpreted as limiting in any way.

Claim 3 depends from Claim 1.

Claims 4 and 5 have been canceled.

35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-5 under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

Examiner has rejected Claims 1 and 2 as being unpatentable over Miettinen et al., International Publication Number WO 01/54346 A1 (hereinafter referred to as "Miettinen"), in view of Coppersmith et al., U.S. Patent Number 6,996,543 B1 (hereinafter referred to as "Coppersmith").

Miettinen, as shown in Figure 1, discloses a mobile station (MS), which is connected through the communication network (CN) to the Certificate Authority server (CA), and a terminal including a web browser. Miettinen's certificate, as shown in Figure 3, includes the a certificate identification number, user name, users e-mail address, RSA/DSS keys, the fingerprint of a signature or of the certificate itself, the hash of the passphrase, a signature, and an expiration date of the certificate.

However, Miettinen does not teach a method for servicing an electronic certificate for a big-name brand or genuine quality, in which the electronic certificate of the big-name brand or genuine quality itself can directly show ownership of the goods of the big-name brand or genuine quality by displaying an electronic certificate on the client system, in which authentication of the big-name brand or genuine quality can be achieved by authentication of the electronic certificate, and in which the electronic certificate can be transferred to

another client of a new owner together with transfer of the goods of the big-name brand or genuine quality.

In addition, as understood from the flowchart of Figure 2 and the certificate of Figure 3, Miettinen does not teach a character image and a management program, as claimed herein.

Coppersmith relates to a system for protection of goods against counterfeiting, and discloses a smart tag which, in order to verify the authenticity of manufactured goods, is attached to the goods and contains encrypted authentication information, such as a serial number, a description of the good's physical appearance or chemical decomposition, its color, or digital images of the good, etc.

However, as understood from the flowchart of Figure 4, Coppersmith does not teach a management program as claimed herein, and Coppersmith's encrypted authentication information does not contain a character image as claimed herein.

Thus, amended Claim 1 and amended Claim 2, which depends from Claim 1, are patentably distinct over Miettinen in view of Coppersmith.

Examiner has also rejected Claims 3-5 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miettinen in view of Coppersmith and further in view of Anderson, U.S. Patent Application Number 2005/0257055 A1.

Claim 3 comprises a database(30) for the electronic certificate(1) and the goods of the big-name brand or genuine quality is constructed by the electronic-certificate creation server(10) at the time of creation and transmission of the electronic certificate(1). The claim 3 further comprises the steps of transmitting results of the certification or authentication as for the electronic certificate (1) and/or information on the goods of the big-name brand or genuine quality when certification or authentication is requested from the client (50) through the authentication/management server (20), and achieving a change in ownership of the goods of the big-name brand or genuine quality by moving the electronic certificate (1) to the client (50) of a transferee together with transfer of the goods and canceling the electronic certificate (1) from the client (50) of a transferor.

Miettinen neither discloses, nor suggests the steps of transmitting results of the certification or authentication as for the electronic certificate and/or information on the goods of the big-name brand or genuine quality when certification or authentication is requested from the client through the authentication/management server, and achieving a change in ownership of the goods of the big-name brand or genuine quality by moving the electronic certificate to the client of a transferee together with transfer of the goods and canceling the electronic certificate from the client of a transferor.

Anderson relates to transferring ownership information to a wireless mobile device from the home network. Examiner notes that Anderson discloses

"the ownership record can be re-created at any time by the network from internal resources, in order to transmit to the device for authentication" in paragraph [0021]-[0023] and Figure 4, and therefore, the feature of original claim 3 of providing the capability to change ownership in order to further guard against theft would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention.

Examiner also notes that Coppersmith further discloses that the change in ownership of the goods is achieved by moving the electronic certificate to the client of a transferee together with transfer of the goods through the authentication/management server, and in column 5, lines 47-59, it could be kept and maintained as a title and record of the whole resale history of the product. Furthermore, Examiner notes that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to keep track of ownership in order to further guard against theft.

However, Anderson is directed to the need for a system and method for implementing and transferring device ownership in network devices in a manner that provides a barrier to device theft. Anderson teaches that a home relationship is established between a device and a network by storing an ownership record in the device that identifies the network, and storing in the network a device identifier. After communication between the device and the network, the ownership record is transmitted from the network to the device, and automatic access to the device is granted to the network once the device verifies the

transmitted ownership record against the ownership record stored in the device. Anderson neither discloses, nor suggests the features of Claim 3, such as the step of achieving a change in ownership of the goods of the big-name brand or genuine quality by moving the electronic certificate to the client of a transferee together with transfer of the goods and canceling the electronic certificate from the client of a transferor.

Furthermore, Coppersmith is directing to helping protect legitimate vendors and the public against difficult to recognize counterfeits, and to aid law enforcement authorities in the pursuit of counterfeiters and identifying illegal counterfeit goods as well as goods being sold in parallel markets. Coppersmith neither discloses nor suggests the features of Claim 3, such as the step of achieving a change in ownership of the goods of the big-name brand or genuine quality by moving the electronic certificate to the client of a transferee together with transfer of the goods and canceling the electronic certificate from the client of a transferor.

Therefore, Claim 3 is patentably distinct over Miettinen, in view of Coppersmith, and further in view of Anderson.

Claims 4 and 5 have been canceled.

Conclusion

Accordingly, the Applicant believes that Claims 1-3 are now in condition for allowance and favorable action is respectfully requested. No new matter has

been added. Should there be any issues that have not been addressed to the Examiner's satisfaction, Applicant invites the Examiner to contact the undersigned attorney.

If any fees are due in connection with this response, please charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 14-1431.

Respectfully submitted,

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